

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Amended) A golf ball comprising:
a core;
a cover comprising a non-ionomeric polymer material comprising a thermoset polymer; and
an intermediate layer disposed between the core and the cover, wherein the intermediate layer comprises a polymer composition comprising at least one ionomer and at least one polyamide polymer.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Amended) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the thermoset polymer comprises a functionalized thermoset polymer, a thermoset copolymer, a functionalized thermoset copolymer, or mixtures thereof.
4. (Original) The golf ball of claim 3, wherein the thermoset polymer comprises polyurethane.
5. (Original) The golf ball of claim 3, wherein the thermoset polymer comprises polyurea.
6. (Previously Amended) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the thermoset polymer comprises transpolyisoprene.
7. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the ionomer comprises homopolymers or copolymers of olefin, polyester, copoly(ether-ester), copoly(ester-ester), polyamide, polyimide, polyether, polyurethane, polyacrylate, polystyrene, hydrogenated styrene butadiene styrene, polycarbonate, or mixtures thereof.
8. (Previously Amended) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the ionomer comprises a copolymer of an olefin and an α,β -ethylenically unsaturated mono- or di-carboxylic acid,

wherein the carboxylic acid groups are at least partially neutralized with at least one metal ion.

9. (Original) The golf ball claim 8, wherein the metal ion comprises zinc, sodium, magnesium, manganese, calcium, lithium, or potassium.

10. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the polyamide polymer is selected from the group consisting of nylon 4, nylon 6, nylon 7, nylon 11, nylon 12, nylon 13, nylon 4,6, nylon 6,6, nylon 6,9, nylon 6,10, nylon 6,12, nylon 12,12, nylon 13,13, and mixtures thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) A golf ball comprising:
a core;
a cover ~~comprising~~ formed from a non-ionomeric thermoplastic polymer material;
and
an intermediate layer disposed between the core and the cover, wherein the intermediate layer comprises a polymer composition comprising about 10 percent to about 80 percent of at least one ionomer and about 90 percent to about 20 percent of at least one polyamide polymer, with the proviso that the at least one polyamide polymer is not a block polyamide copolymer comprising main-chain polyether blocks.

12. (Original) The golf ball of claim 11, wherein the non-ionomeric thermoplastic polymer material comprises a functionalized polymer, a copolymer or functionalized copolymer, or mixtures thereof.

13. (Previously Amended) The golf ball of claim 11, wherein the non-ionomeric thermoplastic polymer material is selected from the group consisting of a polyamide, a polycarbonate, a poly(phenylene oxide), imidized amino group containing polymers, high impact polystyrene, polysulfone, poly(phenylene sulfide), reinforced engineering plastics, polytetrafluoroethylene, nonionic olefinic homopolymers, and nonionic olefinic copolymers.

14. (Previously Amended) The golf ball of claim 11, wherein the ionomer comprises a copolymer of an olefin and an α,β -ethylenically unsaturated mono- or di-carboxylic acid,

wherein the carboxylic acid groups are at least partially neutralized with at least one metal ion.

15. (Original) The golf ball claim 14, wherein the metal ion comprises zinc, sodium, magnesium, manganese, calcium, lithium, or potassium.

16 - 21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A golf ball comprising:

a core;

a cover comprising a non-ionomeric polymer material comprising at least one thermoset polymer; and

an intermediate layer disposed between the core and the cover, wherein the intermediate layer comprises a polymer composition comprising about 10 percent to about 80 percent of at least one ionomer and about 90 percent to about 20 percent of at least one polyamide polymer, with the proviso that the at least one polyamide polymer is not a block polyamide copolymer comprising main-chain polyether blocks.

23. (Previously Entered) The golf ball of claim 22, wherein the ionomer is present in an amount of about 15 percent to about 75 percent by weight of the polymer composition, and wherein the polyamide polymer is present in an amount of about 85 percent to about 25 percent by weight of the polymer composition.

24. (Previously Entered) The golf ball of claim 22, wherein the at least one polyamide polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyamide homopolymers, polyamide copolymers, block polyamide copolymers, and mixtures thereof.

25. (Previously Entered) The golf ball of claim 22, wherein the at least one ionomer comprises a copolymer of ethylene and about 5 percent to about 30 percent acrylic acid or methacrylic acid.

26. (Canceled) The golf ball of claim 22, wherein the non-ionomeric polymer material comprises at least one thermoset polymer.

27. (Previously Entered) The golf ball of claim 22, wherein the non-ionomeric polymer material comprises at least one thermoplastic polymer.